

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE
METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MULTI-FORMAT
STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL

5 *sub* A method and system for storing data in multiple
formats based on the nature of the data and the
characteristics of the possible output devices are
disclosed. The disclosed invention, when coupled with a
data processing system and multiple presentation devices, is
designed to minimize processing requirements and processing
10 time while maximizing output quality. The data processing
system includes a central processing unit, memory, at least
one output device, and a user input device. The method and
system provide outputting of a data set to a physical output
device such as a display, a printer, a fax, or a logical
15 output device such as an email generator or any other data
processing system. In implementing the improved method and
system for improving the data set presentation process a
data set is broken into objects and further into units so
that each unit within an object contains a similar data
20 type. Units that require less processing power for
presentation are stored in a device-independent format.
Units that require more processing power for presentation
are stored in device-independent format and device dependent
format determined by the presentation parameters of an
25 attached peripheral presentation device. At presentation
time a document database, or storage area, assembles the
document from the units determined by the presentation
device. The document is composed of data that is specific
for the presentation device or data that is device
30 independent.